



PARKS AND RECREATION COMMISSION

SYNOPSIS

DEVELOPMENT MEETING

**Wednesday, January 16, 2008
5:30 P.M.**

**City Hall
Room W-120
200 East Santa Clara Street
San José, CA 95113**

MELANIE RICHARDSON, CHAIR

MARY ANN RUIZ, VICE CHAIR

MIKE FLAUGHER

LESLEE HAMILTON

G.M. HARDING

JAMES KIM

JULIE MATSUSHIMA

ERIK KARSTAN SMITH

DEVELOPMENT MEETING

1 CALL TO ORDER AND ROLL CALL

The meeting was called to order at 5:30 p.m.

Present: Richardson, Flaughner, Hamilton, Harding, Kim, Matsushima, and Smith

Late: Ruiz (arrived 5:50 p.m.)

Absent: None

2 ORDERS OF THE DAY

Item 5.3 was heard out of order, before item 5.2.

3 ORAL COMMUNICATIONS

Speaker: Naresh Sadasivan of the California Cricket Academy (CCA) provided information regarding the CCA's first international cricket tour to India for boys 11 to 15 years old. Secondly, he requested that the Commission urge the City of San José to build a cricket field by this spring. Other members of the CCA have previously addressed the Commission in support of a cricket field.

4 CONSENT CALENDAR

4.1 Approval of December 5, 2007 Synopsis

Commissioner Hamilton requested a correction to item 10.2, paragraph 3 of the synopsis. The corrected sentence shall read: "Chair Richardson congratulated Commissioner Hamilton on her appointment as Executive Director of the Guadalupe River Park and Gardens."

4.2 Approval of Amendment to Aborn Park Master Plan to Include a Play Lot

4.3 Approval of Greenprint Update

4.4 Approval of Commissioners Hamilton and Matsushima (Alternate) to Participate in PRNS Deputy Director Interviews

A correction was made to item 4.1.

It was moved by Commissioner Matsushima, seconded by Commissioner Hamilton and voted 7-0 that the Consent Calendar be approved, with a correction to item 4.1 as noted under the item.

5 ACTION ITEMS

5.1 Public Hearing for the Naming of a New Park at Falls Creek Drive and Batten Way
Parks Manager Simeon Mercado gave a brief overview of this new 1-acre park in Council District 8.

Speaker: David Zenker of the Falls Creek Neighborhood Association spoke in support of the name "Falls Creek Park." The neighborhood association unanimously supported this name. Falls Creek Drive intersects Batten Way on the east side of the park.

It was moved by Commissioner Harding, seconded by Commissioner Hamilton and voted 7-0 to approve the naming of a new park at Falls Creek Drive and Batten Way as "Falls Creek Park."

5.2 Approval of Letter to the City Council Regarding Planning Application PDC07-015
Vice Chair Ruiz reviewed the draft letter expressing concerns regarding the Council's approval of a minimum 1-acre park for PDC07-015 in Council District 3. The Commission had made a recommendation to Council for a minimum 2-acre park.

The following changes were recommended:

- Parks Planning Manager Dave Mitchell noted that the Planning Commission's recommendation was for a minimum 1-acre park.
- Speaker: Helen Chapman encouraged the Commission to incorporate parks in the transit areas and requested this be included.
- Grammatical corrections.

It was moved by Commissioner Hamilton, seconded by Commissioner Harding and

voted 8-0 to approve the draft letter regarding PDC07-15 with changes.

5.3 Approval of Parks and Recreation Element Implementation Plan for the North San José Area Development Policy

Parks Planning Manager Dave Mitchell presented the goals of parks, recreational facilities and trails for the North San José Area Development Policy. Options for a balanced park system were reviewed. There will be four phases of development. Implementation will be under the Parkland Dedication Ordinance and Park Impact Ordinance (PDO/PIO). Estimated development costs are \$380M. One option of PDO/PIO implementation is for developers to fulfill their obligation with new parkland and developed facilities. Using this model, 70,000 new residents would generate an estimated \$370M and 80 acres of new parkland and developed facilities. This would create a ratio of 1.1 acres/1000 residents, and leave a \$10M shortfall.

Speaker: Jean Dresden spoke on the challenges and possible solutions for zoning maps driving the change of park design, amenities, adjacent land interface and maintenance costs. Two examples, PDC07-057 and PDC06-067, were given.

Ms. Dresden requested the Commission write two letters: 1) a letter to the Planning Commission regarding the concerns of PDC07-057; and 2) a letter to PRNS and Planning staff regarding the revision of the park placement review process.

Speaker: Helen Chapman of CalSJ spoke on the Agnews and VTA property opportunities; concern of the disparity of North San José's lower ratio of parkland acreage to 1000 residents than that of Coyote Valley's; and riparian corridor issues.

Speaker: Ed Rast spoke on the need for funding plans. Suggestions were the use of Mello-Roos districts, private funding, a community foundation, and roundtable meetings to build community support.

Commissioner Hamilton expressed concern that the riparian corridor setback measurement used in PDC07-057 was different than the measurement previously used for a nearby development. The zoning currently proposed will place the riparian corridor inside the levee, allowing the soccer field safety zone only seven feet and the trail at the base of the levee (erosion issues).

Chair Richardson expressed concern regarding the lower 1.1 ratio of parkland acreage to 1000 residents when using the PDO/PIO as the funding and implementation source for North San José. Chair Richardson would like to explore other funding sources. Using the PDO/PIO as the sole implementation plan is not appropriate for a large new development. It is more appropriate for an existing development undergoing infill.

The Commission requested continuation of the North San José Area Development Policy discussion at a subsequent meeting.

It was moved by Commissioner Flaughner, seconded by Commissioner Harding and voted 8-0 to reschedule the February 6, 2008 Commission meeting to February 13, 2008, and to continue discussion on the Parks and Recreation Facilities for the North San José Area Development Policy, on February 13, 2008.

It was moved by Commissioner Flaughner, seconded by Commissioner Harding and voted 8-0 that Commissioner Flaughner, assisted by Jean Dresden, draft a letter to the City Council and Planning Commission regarding the grave concerns of proposed projects in North San José. Chair Richardson and Vice Chair Ruiz shall be given authorization to approve the letter, and Chair Richardson shall be signatory.

7 ADJOURNMENT

The development meeting concluded at 7:35 p.m. and was followed by the study session.